The Times' Daily Short Story.

The COLONEL'S ORDERLY

While our little force of 3,000 men was holding Snyder's gap in the Cumberland mountains against the Confederates I was detailed as Colonel McClintock's (I don't give his real name) orderly. We were especially anxious to conceal our weakness from the enemy, and no one was permitted to pass our pickets.

Colonel McClintock became infatuated with a woman who lived with her mother within our lines. I rode out with him on his visits to her, which were mostly made in the evening. I found the woman too city bred for that region and learned that she and her mother had arrived soon after our force. There was a young man on the place called Dick, who acted as a sort of butler, with whom I became friendly. He was a sharp, keen fellow, and after a bit he let out the information that instead of being an old family servant he had been hired to come down from Washington for a few weeks.

There were other things to set me thinking, and the colonel hadn't paid more than four visits before I became suspicious. The colonel was plied with liquor at every visit, and he was always "grabby" as we returned to camp, and sometimes visibly under the influence of drink. In waiting on them Dick had overheard the woman asking many questions, and the colonel seemed willing to answer them all.

After the seventh or eighth visit, which covered a period of less than three weeks, I was satisfied that the colonel was being "worked," but I was helpless in the matter. I could not speak to him about it, nor did I dare to go to the brigadier without the plainest evidence. Dick and I were in full accord, and we determined to find out just how matters stood.

It was in summer, with all the windows in the house open at night. One could station himself under the sitting room windows and hear every word spoken inside. Mistrusting me, perhaps, the widow had always had a colored servant on the watch against eavesdroppers, but on the night of the colonel's ninth visit Dick saw to it that this servant, who was a middle aged colored man, had too much applejack to awake, and the field was left clear. But for the issue at stake the act would have been contemptible. When I had crept beneath one of the windows I found the colonel telling all that he knew under the widow's cross questioning. He had drunk until his tongue was bound to wag. He gave her the exact strength of our force and the strength of our artillery, and mentioned that the latter arm was short of ammunition, as one of our wagon trains had been captured. He told her how far up the gap our vedettes were stationed and what sort of defensive works we had erected, and in half an hour she had got all the information wanted. It was bad enough to give away his own force, but the chattering officer went further. He gave her the strength of the force at Bronson's pass and at Derby's gap, lying east and west of us.

After hearing what I did, I judged that the woman would have some one at hand to carry the information to the enemy. I had hardly left the window when she came out to look for the servant who had been made drunk. Seeing his condition, she expressed anger and disappointment, but was afraid to trust any one else with her message. She returned to the colonel, and half an hour later we rode back to the camp.

It was easy to figure that word would be got to the Confederates next morning at the latest, and the brigadier had only finished his breakfast when I told my story. He listened without interruption, but when I had concluded he said:

"Young man, I will send for Dick, and if he does not corroborate you in every particular I will have you drummed out of the army. If you two have put up a job in this thing I'll have you both shot."

Dick was not brought into camp, but an aid rode out and managed to secure an interview with him. Then there was riding to and fro. Five hundred men had been brought from Bronson's pass and the same from Derby's gap, and a new breastwork was thrown up. Ammunition for the artillery was hunted for in every direction, and not even a commissioned officer was permitted to leave the camp under any pretext.

Officers and privates questioned and wondered, but the brigadier gave no information. He made all ready for an attack, and half the force was under arms all night. In the gray of the morning the enemy came marching down the pass, thinking to find us only 3,000 men and unprepared, and the hot attacks and repulses that followed for the next six hours are matters of history.

After it was all over the brigadier sent for the colonel, and after an hour's talk the latter's resignation was made out and forwarded to Washington. As to what was said between the two men no other ears overheard. I do not know to this day if the part I played was told the colonel.

When he had left the brigadier's tent an officer with a detachment of men was sent to bring in the two women. They had fled hours before, leaving the house in charge of a servant, and I do not think they were ever arrested.

I have never believed that Colonel McClintock was disloyal. He simply became infatuated with the woman, and when in his cups he could not keep his own confidences. She may have met him in the first place by mere accident or she may have in some manner learned of his failing and planned to take advantage of it.

In either instance her scheme was a failure, and there were 280 dead men to bury at the mouth of the lonely mountain pass. M. QUAD.

Dr. Johnson's Monomania.

The boundary line between habit and monomania is, rather shadowy and vague. Dr. Johnson had an irresistible impulse to touch every post he passed. Sometimes he would force himself to go by one, only to return and gratify his strange wish.

She Could Shoot.

At a shooting match in the canton of Grisons, Switzerland, a young waitress laughed at one of the competitors, who challenged her to do better if she could. Accepting, she thereupon took up a rifle and succeeded in winning a prize.

HISTORY OF THE VATICAN

Famous Residence of the Pope and His Court.

VAST PALACE OF MANY ROOMS.

Designed to Be the Greatest Christian Structure of Its Kind, It Covers an Area of About Thirteen Acres and Has Eight Grand Staircases—The Pope Has Only Three Rooms, Furnished Very Simply.

Four centuries and a half have passed since it came into the mind of Pope Nicholas V. to make the Vatican the largest and most beautiful palace of the Christian world, says the New York Herald. He planned to include within its walls all the offices of the papal government. Every cardinal was to be housed within its precincts. But little was accomplished by this pope toward the fulfillment of his purpose. All that he saw finished was the Tower of Borgia and a private chapel.

Nearly every succeeding pope has added something to the building of the Vatican until it has become an immense pile of irregular architecture descriptive of the successive pontificates and telling of the individual characters and tastes of the various popes who inhabited the palace long enough to leave some impression of their own. After the popes retired from Avignon they found their former residence on the Lateran hill in ruins and adopted the Vatican in its stead in order to obtain the greater security given by the Castle of St. Angelo, close at hand, a covered gallery connecting the palace and the fortress along the north line of the Leonine wall.

Alexander VI. constructed what is known as the old palace, called the Appartamenti Borgia, and to this part Sixtus IV. added in 1474 the Sixtine chapel. The Belvedere was erected by Innocent VIII. in 1490, and Julius II. united the Belvedere to the palace by the celebrated loggie. To Julius II. the Vatican is indebted for the beginning of the museum, and its foundations were laid in the gardens of the Belvedere under his initiation. After his death Leo X. completed the loggie, employing Raphael to direct the work.

By 1600 the section of the palace was completed which includes the ordinary residence of the pope. It is the most conspicuous portion of the mass of buildings rising above the piazza of St. Peter. The loggie were inclosed in glass by Pius IX., thus protecting from the weather the frescoes of Raphael, and in the course of his long reign he made many improvements in the picture galleries.

The special work by which Leo XIII. left his mark on the Vatican was the decoration of the Gallery of Candelabra with frescoes by Seitz, with a pavement of precious marbles and antique statuary from recent excavations, while he built a reading room for students in the Vatican library and a new wing for printed books, further conferring an immense boon on foreign students by throwing open the Vatican archives and providing them with accommodation.

The celebrated staircase, the Scala Regia, was constructed by Bernini under Urban VIII. Subsequent popes built the range of apartments for the Museo Pio Clementino and the Egyptian and Etruscan museums. The fourth side of the Cortele di San Damaso was closed by Pius IX., who reconstructed the great staircase leading from the arcades of the piazza into the court.

Altogether the Vatican palace covers an area of about thirteen and one-half acres, of which about six are occupied by the twenty courts, and contains perhaps a thousand halls, chapels, saloons and private apartments, the greater part of which are occupied by collections and showrooms, a comparatively small part of the building being set apart for the papal court.

The length of the palace is 1,151 feet and its breadth 767. It has eight grand staircases. The principal entrance to the Vatican is at the end of the right colonnade of St. Peter's, where a door on the right opens upon the staircase leading to the Cortile di Damaso. The famous Sixtine chapel, which figures so prominently in connection with a pope's death and the election of his successor, was formerly hung on festivals with the tapestries executed from the cartoons of Raphael. The upper portion is decorated in fresco by the great Florentine masters of the fifteenth century. On the pillar between the windows are the figures of twenty-eight popes by Sandro Botticelli. The vast fresco of "The Last Judgment" occupied Michael Angelo seven years and was finished in 1541 under Paul III.

Only those strangers admitted to a special audience ever see the small portion of the Vatican inhabited by the pope. The three rooms occupied by the pontiff are furnished with the utmost simplicity. They consist of the bare green saloon, the red saloon, containing a throne flanked by benches, and the bedroom, with yellow draperies, a large writing table and a few pictures by old masters.

From the windows of the Egyptian museum one can look down upon the inner garden of the Vatican known as the Giardino della Pigna, from the famous Pigna, a gigantic fur cone, said once to have crowned the summit of the mausoleum of Hadrian.

The garden was the second great quadrangle of the Vatican, planted with shrubs and flowers under Pius IX., but has been neglected for many years. From the outer courtyard one enters the larger garden, but as this was constantly used by the pope admittance was gained to it only as a matter of the rarest privilege. Pope Pius IX. used to ride here on his white mule.

MONSTER RAILWAY DEPOT.

Facts About the New Pennsylvania Station in New York.

The plans for the new Pennsylvania railroad depot in New York, which is heralded as the finest building of its kind in the world, were presented by Architect William R. Mead at the other morning's hearing before the commission appointed by the appellate division of the supreme court to pass on the tunnel plans, says the New York American.

The immense structure will have a total frontage of nearly 2,500 feet, being 800 feet long and 420 feet wide. It will have practically four floors, consisting of the track level, forty feet below the street; the general waiting room level, seventeen feet below the street; the street level, and the second story above. While it will be finished alike all around and practically front on all sides, the main entrance will be on Seventh avenue.

One of the imposing features of this entrance will be an array of ninety-four granite columns fifty feet high. More of the same kind are to be placed at intervals all around the building. The interior will be richly finished in stone and marble and the exterior will be of "warm" granite.

The entrance at Seventh avenue is through a large vestibule and an arcade 100 feet long, with shops and stores on either side. This leads to stairs descending into the main waiting room, which extends 300 feet, almost the entire width of the building, 150 feet wide, and whose walls rise independent of the walls of the main building, forming a loft or dome 140 feet high.

On through this room to the left and right are waiting rooms 100 by 50 feet, also a restaurant and lunchroom. Barber shops and bath and dressing rooms are close by to accommodate travelers.

From the waiting rooms one proceeds to the concourse, which is 420 feet long and over 200 feet wide, spacious enough to handle the largest crowds. This is still twenty-five feet above the track level. Along its outer edge are the gateways leading to the different tracks, through which stairways are reached leading directly to the train.

The train sheds will be built of iron and glass, similar to the magnificent stations at Munich and Dresden. The roof will be 100 feet from the floor. All power being electricity, there will be no smoke with which to contend. The atticlike story above the street level will be made up mostly of office rooms. These will extend all around the structure.

On the seventeen foot level there will be two large baggage rooms, incoming and outgoing, both reached by fifty foot driveways down gradual inclines from the street. There will be similar driveways for cabs and carriages to the concourse.

RATS FROM ALL CLIMES.

Rodents of Many Sorts Sent to the National Museum.

The scientists of the National museum at Washington are arranging the latest gift to that institution, which is a collection of rats from all parts of the world, says the New York Times. This collection is the result of a fad kept up for many years by Surgeon Edgar Mearns of the army. The collection goes beyond the confines of the rat family proper and includes also skunks, chipmunks, squirrels, raccoons, mink, opossum, muskrats and other examples of the rodentia. There are rats from the tropics, from the orient, from the far north and of almost every known species. Some are water rats, some mountain rats, some field rats and some tree rats. There are rats from mines, from ships, from factories and from caves. There are a number of peculiar ones from Sumatra and the East Indies, several from the Philippines and, naturally, the edible variety from China.

The variations in size, color, habits and intelligence are carefully described in the labels, and the exhibit is one of remarkable interest. There are included in the collection hundreds of various kinds of mice, some of them extremely rare wood and field specimens.

LIPTON AND THE CUP.

The cup will stand pat.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

The Shamrock is said to be good at reaching. Her chief weakness is in "lifting."—Exchange.

Sir Thomas Lipton may not win that cup, but it is very probable that quite a number of babies will be named after him.—Baltimore Herald.

IN BOSTON MARKETS.

Quotations on the Leading Products That Are in Demand.

Boston, July 29.—Butter is easier, and prices are slowly sagging, in face of the favorable prospect for a large make. Northern creamery, round lots, 21@21½c; western, 20½@21c; Vermont dairy, 18@20c; renovated butter, 16@18c; jobbing, ½@1c more.

Cheese is quiet in demand, with prices steady. Round lots, new, 9 3-4@10 1-4c; jobbing, ½@1c higher.

Eggs were marked down in New York, but here prices are steady for choice stock. Off grades are plenty and easy. Western fresh, 17@18c; eastern, 20@21c; nearby, 23@25c; jobbing, 1@1½c higher.

Beans are firm, both here and in the country, with a fair demand. Carload lots, pea, $2.35@2.40; medium, $2.35@2.40; yellow eyes, $2.85@2.90; red kidneys, $3.45@3.55; California small white, $2.60@2.65; foreign pea and medium, $2.25@2.30; jobbing, 10c more.

The last of the old apples are cleaned up but there is a full supply of new stock offering and prices are easy. Baskets are quoted at 75c@$1.25, as to quality, with bbls at $2@3.

Strawberries are about out of the market, though a few sold at 18@22c. They come from Nova Scotia. Other berries are in full supply and sell at: Blackberries, 8@10c for southern and 14@16c for Hudson river; blueberries, 8@10c for southern, and 12@15c for native; raspberries, pints, 7@10c for New York state and 11@13c for natives; currants, 11@13c; gooseberries, 12@18c.

Georgia Alberta peaches are jobbing at $2.75@3.25 per 6-bskt-crt.

Watermelons are more plentiful and sell by the load at 15@28c each, according to size.

Canteloupes are quoted at $1.50@3 in a jobbing way. Some very choice California canteloupes sell at $7 per crt.

California plums sell at $1.25@2.50 per bx; peaches, $1@2; Bartlett pears, $3.50@3.75.

Potatoes are easier, with a full supply. Fancy, $2.50@2.75 per bbl; low grades, $2.25@2.50; golden yellow sweets, $3@4; red, $3@3.50.

Bunch celery is selling at 25@75c per bch.

Onions are easier at: Native bbls, $2.25; Egyptian, bgs, $1.75; Bermudas, $1.25@2 per crt; bunch onions, 50c per bx.

Hothouse tomatoes are quoted at 15@18c per lb; southern, $1@2 per crt; natives per bx, $4@6.

Cucumbers sell at 75c@$3.50 per bx for all sizes.

Yellow turnips sell at $2.25 per bbl; bunch turnips, 4c; new beets, 75c per bu; bunch beets, 1½c; carrots, $1.25 per bu; bunch carrots, 2@4c.

Cabbages sell at $1.25@1.50 per crt.

Marrow squashes bring $1.25 per bbl; crooknecks, 50c per doz; white, 50c per doz.

The market for lettuce is quoted at 40@75c per bx. Radishes sell at 25c per bx; mint, 25c per doz; cress, 35c per doz; leeks, 50c per doz.

String beans are quoted at 60@75c for green and 40@60c for wax. Green peas sell at 75c@$1.25 per bu for native.

Spinach is quoted at 25c per bu for native; parsley, hothouse, 75c per bu; romaine, 75c per bu; beet greens 25c per bu; rhubarb, 2c per lb; peppers, $2 per bu.

Hay continues in liberal supply, but the demand is quiet and prices are easier. Some new hay has arrived; straw is quiet; millfeed is easier. Hay, No. 1, $21@22; lower grade, $14@20; rye straw, $18@21; oat straw, $10@11.

Lard was marked off again and the market has now lost all of the gain of the past two weeks. The marketing of hogs has been considerably lessened, but the movement continues largely in excess of corresponding time last year.

The market for fresh beef cleaned up with prices higher and a further advance predicted.

There is a firm market for both lambs and veals, with muttons steady. Western fall lambs, 10@11c; spring lambs, 13@14c; yearlings, 8@10c; muttons, 6@8c; veals, 7@9c.

Fowls are firm and in good demand, but generally poultry is firm and unchanged. Western turkeys, frozen, 18@19c; iced, 15@16c; western fowls, iced, 14@14½c; western frozen chickens, 14@16c; fresh northern fowls, 14@15c, broilers, 20@21c; western broilers, 18@20c; spring ducks, 17@18c; pigeons, $1.75@2 per doz; squabs, $2.50@3.50 per doz.

Both the movement of the wheat crop and the crop outlook have been bullish in effect during the past week. Nevertheless, the general indifference of experts, coupld with a narrow speculative trade, has prevented a larger advance. There have been spurts of activity here and there, but generally the market has been quiet. At this time last year not only were exporters beginning to take hold, but receipts ran about double in volume of those of the past week. Present stocks everywhere in this country are down to low ebb, and the visible supply one of the smallest, relatively, in many years. Either receipts must gain rapidly or prices will be forced to higher levels whether Europe buys or not, according to the bull operators. To persistent governmental reports of steady deterioration in spring wheat, bears reply with advices from their own agents showing the crop to be making favorable progress. Snow, however, says the spring wheat yield will be less than last year. For the two crops 700,000,000 bushels will remain, a very conservative figure, although taking into consideration the increase of population and exhausted supplies, this would practically amount to a yield no larger than last year.

QUAINT BATAVIA.

Java's Picturesque Town and the People One Meets There.

Imagine a town of giant dolls' houses built in Burmese and Japanese style, trim avenues of beautiful trees, broad, clean streets and thousands of grown up dolls masquerading in oriental fancy dress, the picture book of one's childhood animated—that is Batavia.

The streets are paraded listlessly by gangs of blue garbed convicts, who pick up cigar ends, bits of paper and fruit peel. The cleanliness of the streets is astonishing.

A man in Batavia once threw a piece of banana peel on the ground, and, looking back a moment afterward, he felt reproached by the sight of that wretched piece of peel, the only blot on the immaculate cleanness of the streets. For awhile his dignity fought with his sense of decency. Then he returned, picked up the offending peel, and—feeling very foolish—carried it until he saw a convenient opportunity for disposing of it.

Representatives of many nations congregate in Batavia, blue gowned Javanese, wearing white pith helmets shaped like inverted saucers; portly Chinese merchants, dressed in a grotesque combination of yellow silk clothes and billycock hats of Hampstead Heath, their pigtails interwoven with blue silk; lean, tawny Malays, Hindoos, Javanese and effeminate looking Cingalese jostle each other on the sidewalks.

It is impossible for a casual observer to distinguish the sex of a Cingalese, as the men have delicate, refined features, are clean shaven, fasten their long hair behind their heads in woman fashion and wear skirts that sweep the ground.

The dress of the Javanese women merits a detailed description, as the Batavian Dutch ladies have adopted the native dress for morning wear.

A long strip of native cloth, called a sarong, is wound round and round the body beneath the armpits and reaches almost to the ankles. An abbreviated Eton jacket, called a kopela, covers the shoulders, and out of doors ladies' slippers are worn on stockingless feet, and a paper parasol is carried.

The Batavian Dutch do not make their toilets, unless they go out of doors, until the afternoon, so that one may see men in pyjamas and women in the native dress lolling on the verandas or sitting down to meals at the hotels. The custom is a lazy but sensible one, considering the climate.—Chambers' Journal.

The Helping Word.

There was a certain old woman who was a constant and devout attendant at church. Her husband died, and her pastor called upon her to comfort her in her sad bereavement.

"Well, my good woman," the pastor remarked, "in your bitter trial I hope you have found some ray of comfort from the Scriptures."

"Indeed I have, dominie," was the confident though tearful reply.

"That's grand, sister," exclaimed the parson sympathetically, "but tell me what passage of the word helped you most."

"Grin and bear it."